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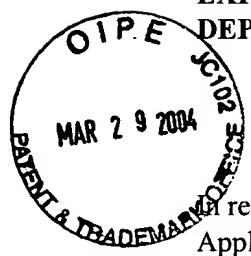
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AF/3635

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EXPRESS MAIL RECEIPT NO. EV096523386US
DEPOSITED ON MARCH 29, 2004

BOX AF

PATENT
DKT. MKM1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

A re application of: Wheeler, et al.

Application No.: 09/978,477

Filed: October 16, 2001

For: DEFLECTION CLIP

Group No.: 3635

Examiner: S. Varner

**RESPONSE UNDER
37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP**

RECEIVED
APR 01 2004
GROUP 3600

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT OR RESPONSE AFTER FINAL REJECTION--TRANSMITTAL

- Transmitted herewith is an amendment after final rejection (37 C.F.R. § 1.116) for this application.

STATUS

- Applicant is a small entity. A statement was already filed.

EXTENSION OF TERM

- The proceedings herein are for a patent application and the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.136 apply. Applicant believes that no extension of term is required. However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition for extension of time.

FEE FOR CLAIMS

4. The fee for claims (37 C.F.R. 1.16(b)-(d)) has been calculated as shown below:

(Col. 1)	(Col. 2)	(Col. 3) SMALL ENTITY
Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra
Total	20	Minus
	38	= 0
		x \$9 =
Indep.	6	Minus
	8	= 0
		x \$43 =
First Presentation of Multiple Dependent Claim		+ \$145 =
		\$0

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Total
Addit. Fee \$0

APR 01 2004

No additional fee for claims is required.

GROUP 3600

FEE DEFICIENCY

5. If any additional extension and/or fee is required, charge Account No. 06-0540.
If any additional fee for claims is required, charge Account No. 06-0540.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 3/29/2004



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**PATENT
DKT. MKM1**



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GROUP 3600

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION (PAPER NO. 11)
MAILED JANUARY 28, 2004**

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments in the above identified United States patent application.

Amendment to the Specification begins on page 2.

Amendment to the Drawings begins on page 6.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the Listing of Claims beginning on page 7.

Remarks begin on page 14.

An **Appendix**, including a Summary of Telephone Interview Between Applicant's Attorney and Examiner Varner Requested in the RCE and amended drawing figures are attached following page 16.